[1/18/78-Not Submitted] [CF, O/A 548]

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

January 18, 1978

Dear Mr. Ripley:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter to the President of January 10 concerning Armand Hammer's proposal, and to let you know that the matter has been brought to Dr. Brzezinski's attention. We are coordinating the proposal with the State Department and will be in contact with you at the earliest opportunity. I hope that the delay in commenting will not cause you any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Christine Dodson Staff Secretary

Honorable S. Dillon Ripley Secretary Smithsonian Institution Washington, D. C. 20560 ID 780102

ORIGIN, DATE: JAN 12 78 TYPE DOCUMENT: PAGES: 02

ORIGINATOR SUBJECT

RIPLEY

SUBJECT LETTER FROM S. DILLON RIPLEY REGARDING A. HAMMER MESSAGE --FINANCING AN EXHIBITION OF MEXICAN CULTURAL OBJECTS

TO PRESIDENT

FROM PRESIDENT

FURTHER ACTION STU EIZENSTAT

DISPOSITION CODE: DATE:

COMMENTS

ORIGINAL SENT TO STU FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING; INFO COPIES WERE SENT TO BRZEZINSKI AND THE FIRST LADY; CC IN MISC. FILE



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Washington, D.C. 20560
U.S.A.

10 January 1978

The President of the United States Washington, D.C. 20500

My dear Mr. President:

Armand Hammer has been in touch with myself for the past month and a half since a recent visit of his to Washington in which he states that he saw you in the White House. The burden of his message is that he wishes, and indeed will finance an exhibition of cultural objects from all the periods of Mexican history. He wants this exhibition to start on a United States tour at the Smithsonian Institution, and no later than March 29. After approximately two months in Washington, it would proceed to New York, possibly Chicago, and then to Los Angeles. Mr. Hammer stated that this exhibition is in the national interest of the United States, and intended to support and encourage friendly relations between Mexico and our country, and especially between your Administration and that of President Lopez Portillo.

We have had no confirmation from the White House, or any other government source, on whether you share views similar to Mr. Hammer's on the importance of such a demonstration and whether the proposed exhibition would be encouraged by your Administration. Mr. Hammer insists that it is important to develop such an exhibition, which will cost us here a great deal in time and effort, if not in money directly, as an expression of the intentions of your Administration to develop the friendliest possible relations with Mexico. It is unnecessary to point out the importance of the oil reserves in Mexico which we are all aware of.

However, I would greatly value any comment or thoughts that your Administration might have in the priority which the Smithsonian should assign to this project, as I do not intend that Mr. Hammer should act as an agent between ourselves and the White House. It is obvious that if, in your estimation, the matter of a magnificent display of cultural objects from Mexico has significant importance in terms of strengthening friendly relations between Mexico and the United States (which, of course, we are eager to further in general), we will do our best in this regard. However, we would welcome some indication of concern or interest on the part of yourself and the Administration.

With kindest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

S. Dillon Ripley Secretary WASHINGTON

DATE: JAN 18 78

FOR ACTION: JIM GAMMILL - 60 evell be done
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Is one of the 60

INFO ONLY: HAMILTON JORDAN

FROM: RICK HUTCHESON WHITE HOUSE STAFF SECRETARY PHONE 456-7052

SUBJECT SEC. BROWN MEMO DTED 4/17/78 RE JOHN HEWITT'S NOMINATION BE RESUBMITTED TO CONGRESS FOR CONFIRMATION

RESPONSE MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE STAFF SECRETARY BY 1200 PM FRIDAY JAN 20 78

ACTION REQUESTED: JIM - PLEASE ADVISE ON STATUS

STAFF RESPONSE: () I CONCUR. () NO COMMENT. () HOLD; DO NOT FORWARD. PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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/		GAMMILL	-		WARREN

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

1.18.78
TO Rich Hutcheson
For Your Information:
For Appropriate Handling:
Copy sent to J. Hammill
777
Robert D. Linder

THE WHITE HOUSE-WASHINGTON

January 18, 1978

TO: BOB LINDER

FROM: MARTY BEAMAN

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON

January 17, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

I am recommending that the nomination of John Arnot Hewitt, Jr., to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management) be resubmitted to the Senate for confirmation. He was nominated during the last session of Congress, but was not confirmed before the recess.

Harold Brown